

C. DUKES SCOTT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

P.O. Box 11263
Columbia, S.C. 29211



Phone: 803-737-0800
Fax: 803-737-0801

DAN EARNETT
CHIEF OF STAFF

176962

KATIE C. MORGAN
DIRECTOR
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORTATION, WATER/WASTEWATER

December 2, 2005

Mr. Charles L.A. Terreni
Chief Clerk/Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
P.O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

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COMMISSION

Docket No. 2005-315-C - Petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Incorporated to Deregulate Voice Mail

Dear Mr. Terreni:

The Office of Regulatory Staff has reviewed the proposed Petition and the verified testimony of Steven L. Inman in support of BellSouth's proposal to deregulate voice mail service. After consideration of the information provided and the fact that no other party expressed concerns relative to the matter, the Office of Regulatory Staff has no reason to object to BellSouth's proposal. The Office of Regulatory Staff recognizes that voice mail services are available through various sources and the use of BellSouth's voice mail service is discretionary. In addition, the Office of Regulatory Staff is cognizant of the fact that BellSouth is the only incumbent local exchange carrier which offers voice mail service on a regulated basis in South Carolina.

In closing, the Office of Regulatory Staff has no objections to BellSouth's Petition or its Motion for expedited review of the matter.

Sincerely,

James McDaniel
Program Manager – Telecommunications
Office of Regulatory Staff

C: Patrick Turner, General Counsel – BellSouth – South Carolina
Katie Morgan
Florence Belser